



REGIONAL FUGITIVE TASK FORCES

CATCH OF THE WEEK



Week of December 6th, 2004


Taking the Worst of the Worst Off the Streets

Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force	
<p>During the week of December 6-10, 2004, investigators from the Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force (SERFTF), in conjunction with the Atlanta Police Department and the U.S. Marshals Technical Operations Group (TOG), arrested two of Atlanta's <i>Ten Most Wanted</i> criminals. Melvin Johnson and Ceylon Mason were both wanted for homicide and had been placed on the <i>Most Wanted</i> list in March 2004 after shooting a man in the back of the head during an armed robbery. Allegedly, the two fugitives had asked the victim to ride along with them in a car knowing that the individual would be carrying a large quantity of cash. As they were driving, Johnson pulled a handgun and fired into the back of the victim's head, killing him instantly. The victim's girlfriend, who was driving the car, was forced out of the vehicle and the shooters drove off with the victim still strapped into his seatbelt.</p> <p>Earlier in the week, the hunt for Mason took investigators to Orlando, Florida where, with the assistance of TOG and deputy marshals from the Middle District of Florida, the fugitive was located and arrested at an apartment in the northwest part of the city. When investigators searched Mason's mother's home in Atlanta, Georgia, they found a Tech-9 street sweeper with two fully loaded thirty round magazines.</p> <p>Following Mason's arrest, SERFTF investigators returned to Atlanta and were able to develop additional information as to the whereabouts of Johnson. On December 10, 2004, investigators located Johnson at a residence in Riverdale, Georgia while conducting surveillance. Once it was confirmed that Johnson was inside, the home was secured and investigators were able to arrest Johnson without incident. At the time of Johnson's arrest, four handguns were recovered from the home.</p> <p>Johnson and Mason are both violent individuals with extensive criminal histories. Johnson is a reported gang leader in Atlanta and has approximately thirty-six prior arrests for offenses such as narcotics, assault, robbery, weapons violations, and homicide. Mason has at least five prior arrests for narcotics and rape.</p>	<div>Atlanta's Ten Most Wanted</div> <div>  <div>Ceylon Mason</div> </div> <div>  <div>Melvin Johnson</div> </div> <div>Wanted for Homicide</div>

Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force	
<p>On November 24, 2004, the day before Thanksgiving, a women, eight months pregnant, was found dead in Mount Woods Park in Fairfax County, Virginia. The pregnant woman had been shot eight times in the body. The homicide investigation quickly focused on the woman's boyfriend, Darius Hicks. Hicks was already wanted in Virginia for a misdemeanor probation violation and in Florida for narcotics violations. The Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force (CARFTF) who had been contacted for assistance in locating and arresting Hicks, worked relentlessly, and with the assistance of the U.S. Marshals Technical Operations (TOG), tracked Hicks to Jacksonville, Florida. CARFTF investigators flew to Jacksonville, Florida and, teaming up with the USMS office in the Middle District of Florida, located Hicks in local jail where he was being held under an assumed name on a stolen vehicle charge. Investigators identified Hicks and alerted jail personnel to his true identity. Fairfax County homicide investigators traveled to Jacksonville and were able to obtain a confession from Hicks for the killing of his girlfriend and her unborn child.</p>	<div data-bbox="1177 174 1403 453" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="1198 453 1382 489" data-label="Caption"> <p>Darius Hicks</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1141 527 1438 562" data-label="Text"> <p>Wanted for Homicide</p> </div>

Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force	
<p>Mario De La Madrid was arrested in Monrovia, California by members of the Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force (PSWRFTF), parole agents from the California Department of Corrections (CDC), and Monrovia Police Officers. De La Madrid, a member of the “El Monte Flores” street gang, was wanted by the CDC for parole violation and by the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department for Manufacturing Methamphetamine and Possession of a Firearm. In November 2004, the San Bernardino Sheriff’s Department executed a search warrant at a location in Bloomington, California which resulted in the discovery of a major clandestine methamphetamine laboratory. Subsequent investigation led to the issuance of an arrest warrant for De La Madrid charging him with a series of state narcotics violations in connection with the laboratory. On December 8, 2004, PSWRFTF, CDC, and Monrovia Police Department officers located and arrested De La Madrid at a residence in Monrovia. A subsequent search of the residence led to the recovery of a .25 caliber handgun, a stun gun, \$2,000 in cash, 447 grams of methamphetamine valued at approximately \$45,000, as well as scales, packaging materials and other paraphernalia.</p>	<div data-bbox="1146 972 1430 1033" data-label="Text"> <p>Member of the El Monte Flores street gang</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1182 1060 1396 1358" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="1146 1358 1433 1394" data-label="Caption"> <p>Mario De La Madrid</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1157 1432 1421 1614" data-label="Text"> <p>Wanted for Manufacturing Methamphetamine and Possession of a Firearm</p> </div>

Great Lakes Regional Fugitive Task Force	
<p>On December 7, 2004, the Great Lakes Regional Fugitive Task Force (GLRFTF) arrested Lamar Blount and Adrian Beeler, who were wanted for a murder that occurred on November 10, 2004. The victim was shot twice to the back of the head and another person was shot but survived. The Indianapolis Police Department's (IPD) Homicide Unit requested assistance from the GLRFTF in locating the two suspects. On December 7, 2004, Task Force investigators responded to a lead that enabled them to locate and arrest Blount. It was then learned that Beel was also in the area. The Task Force, working with the assistance of IPD's East District, worked over the next three hours scouring the neighborhood and developing leads. The Task Force responded an apartment building where they believed Beeler was hiding. The Task Force knocked and announced and was able to discern persons talking and moving furniture to block the door. The Task Force, under exigent circumstances, made entry with IPD, removing the furniture blocking the entrance. Beeler immediately surrendered. Two other individuals were found hiding in the apartment. A search warrant was obtained and a weapon (Hi-Point .380) was recovered in the apartment underneath the mattress of a baby stroller.</p>	<div data-bbox="1198 205 1377 457"></div> <div data-bbox="1198 457 1386 491">Adrian Beeler</div> <div data-bbox="1198 529 1377 772"></div> <div data-bbox="1198 772 1386 806">Lamar Blount</div> <div data-bbox="1143 840 1442 873">Wanted for Homicide</div>

New York/New Jersey Regional Fugitive Task Force	
<p>Roger “Mikey” Major was wanted by the U.S. Marshals in the Northern District of New York for unlawful flight to avoid prosecution and the Albany, New York, Police Department on an October 2003 conviction for distribution of cocaine. Major fled while on bond and was sentenced in absentia to 20 to 40 years. In May 2004, the U.S. Marshals Northern District of New York’s Capital District Fugitive Task Force traced Major to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida where he was being concealed by family and friends. Efforts made in Ft. Lauderdale caused Major to return to the New York city area. The NY/NJ Regional Fugitive Task, working with the Capital District Fugitive Task Force, learned that Major and his younger brother were involved in an armed car jacking on November 25, 2004 in the Bronx and were also able to obtain a possible address for Major. A surveillance of the Bronx address led investigators to Major’s new address in Mt Vernon, New York. On December 9, 2004, as members of both Task Forces and the Mt. Vernon Police Department entered the apartment, Major jumped out of a third floor window attempting to flee. Major climbed up a fire escape onto the roof where he was caught by members of the Task Force and taken into custody.</p>	<div data-bbox="1172 991 1409 1264"></div> <div data-bbox="1198 1264 1386 1297">Roger Major</div> <div data-bbox="1143 1339 1442 1520">Wanted for Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution and Distribution of Cocaine</div>